

INDEX FOR READ

vol. XXVI-1976-77

Here is an index for the 18 issues of *Read* you received this year. Each topic has been alphabetized within its category. The first number after each topic refers to the issue, the second to the page.

We hope that this index will prove to be a handy tool for future reference.

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Summer Is A-Comin': And So Are Our New Unit Books—To Help You Next Fall

While you're still wearily congratulating yourself on having survived another tough season in the trenches, we'd like to take this untimely—and perhaps indecent—opportunity to remind you that if summer is soon a-comin', next fall can't be very far behind.

But don't despair. A moment's forethought now may save you months of grief in September. To help you cope with some of your more persistent classroom problems—they can't write, they won't read, they don't listen—A NEW AND EXCITING LINE OF UNIT BOOKS IS ON THE WAY!

Take the problem of student writing, for instance. You don't need us to tell you how hard it is to get students to write—or how sad the results often are. A recent article in *The New York Times* said that even the City University is now giving courses and conducting massive research in remedial writing. Among the many findings is the fact that students, if given a choice, prefer to write about their own experiences.

One of our new Unit Books (*Writing You'll Enjoy*, available this September) is designed to hit reluctant writers where they really live—in their own world. Using cartoons and comic strips for motivation, all the assignments in the book are shamelessly student-centered. The first six deal with

the students' immediate experiences: daydreams, love stories, lost and found objects, memories triggered by emotionally charged words. The others call for a greater imaginative effort. One assignment asks the students to create a comic strip based on their secret "superself." Another asks students to project themselves backward or forward in time.

A second new Unit Book (*What Makes a Good Story?*) launches an equally daring raid on the reluctant reader. Using as bait the most popular stories that have appeared in *Read* over the years, this 128-page book not only will get your students reading but also, with the aid of specially prepared SDM's, teach them such basic techniques of fiction as conflict, theme, characterization, irony, and point of view.

Also available in September are two new playbooks. One (*Plays for Group Reading*) promises to get everybody into the act with dramas involving a mad scientist, a loony disc jockey, food that talks back (See *Read* 18, p. 10), and an incredible voice box that recovers lost moments in time.

Our other new offering (*Plays About Everyday Experiences*) deals with value conflicts in an open-ended format. Each play is complete in itself, but the action ends in a way designed to provoke further discussion. Among the experiences explored are cheating, running away, and vandalism.

